

Camden Hills Regional High School

We are a community of learners

Dr. Nick Ithomitis
Principal

Bill Hughes
Athletic Director



Graham Bode
Assistant Principal

Piet Lammert
Assistant Principal

September 1, 2010

Dear family:

Welcome to a new year at CHRHS! I'm William O'Brien, and I love teaching math. This year, my classes are Algebra 1 and AP Calculus. I think math is a valuable and exciting topic of study, and I hope by the end of the year, you agree.

Learning the foundations of algebra is often like beginning a foreign language- it can be difficult to see the forest for the trees. Some suggestions for students:

- Think about math at least five times a week, even though we only meet for class two or three times.
- Work on your assignments early- in class, in study hall, at home.
- Talk to your friends about math; it's more fun to learn together.
- Aim to understand rather than memorize.
- If you start to feel lost, tell someone soon! (You can email me anytime...)
- Stay organized and up to date.

Family:

- Share your reasons why it is important to do your best in mathematics classes.
- Make sure your student has a good study space without distractions.
- Encourage your student to tell me if assignments are taking more than an hour outside of class.
- Please email or phone me with any questions or concerns.

Please visit my webpage: <http://math-ob.wikispaces.com>. There you will find all homework assignments, coming events, my course policies, class announcements and other helpful information.

Every student struggles at some point with beginning algebra- know that now, and don't hesitate to speak up if I don't recognize when you have hit that wall. Working with the abstractness of algebra builds important brain pathways and helps develop problem-solving skills. I aim to improve my students' mathematical abilities while instilling the habits of mind required to become lifelong learners.

Once you have read this letter, **please email or phone me** and include any email addresses or phone numbers that you would like me to send correspondence to this year.

I look forward to a productive and enjoyable year!

Regards,

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